

# MISSION MESSAGE

Official Newsletter of the Board of World Mission



## A Note From the Executive Director

Summer "break" is an interesting thing to think about once you are out of school... If you, like me, live in Wisconsin, summers are short. Rather than taking a break and slowing down, summer feels more like a sprint as I try to accomplish as much as possible in these warm and long days. For BWM staff this also means fanning out and attending our different summer camping programs. BWM staff and board members will collectively serve more than a dozen weeks at our Moravian summer camps this year. Personally, at the time of writing, I have just completed back-to-back weeks at Chetek (Western District) and Camp Hope (Eastern District) for their senior high programming. It was inspiring to be able to serve as a counselor for such engaged and passionate young adults who truly live out the challenge of 1 Timothy 4:12 to "be the example" of what God calls the world to be.

In addition to staffing camps with BWM employees, we also facilitated camper exchanges, including helping two campers from Florida to attend Chetek in Wisconsin and then covering the travel expenses for a camper from the Western District to attend Camp Hope. These exchanges are invaluable as relationships are formed amongst developing leaders. At each camp, conversations were held about opportunities for mission service as part of vocational discernment and general growth. As a result, a new crop of names has been added to our list of potential mission team participants in the near future. I am excited by the energy and passion apparent in our church for this important work.



## COMING SOON...

### Important Anniversaries

**August 13th** - Anniversary of the first Lovefeast in 1727

**August 20th** - Anniversary of the sending of the first Moravian missionaries from Herrnhut to St. Thomas in the West Indies in 1732

### We Want To See Your #MoravianServies

A servie: like a selfie, only better! In honor of the 290th anniversary of the first Moravian missionaries leaving Herrnhut, we are collecting photos of Moravians participating in acts of service to others.

Please send photos (new and old!) from mission trips, community service events, and more to [sylvie@moravianmission.org](mailto:sylvie@moravianmission.org) or (920)495-8995. We are grateful for any details you can share about who is in the photos, where they were taken, etc.

## Staffing Updates

Over the summer, the Board of World Mission team has celebrated some exciting life changes. Jill Kolodziej will enjoy more travel (for pleasure!) and time with her grandchildren in her retirement (see the following page) and Elizabeth Thiele has decided to commit her time and energy more fully to her education and her family. We wish both of them nothing but the best and look forward to seeing them around this small Moravian world.



We are pleased to announce that Sue Adams, a longtime member of Emmaus Moravian Church, has joined our staff as the Administrative Assistant. Sue is looking forward to building relationships in order to further the good news of Christ's love for all.



We are very grateful that Elizabeth jumped in with both feet during a busy year: Elizabeth has brought energy and passion to her work in keeping the BWM running smoothly and also set up a new database that will be an immense help as the BWM looks to the future.



## Ukraine Relief

With thanksgiving for the many congregations and individuals who have donated to our Moravian Disaster Response Fund over the past few months, we are humbled to share that we have raised over \$300,000 to assist congregations

in the Czech Republic and Germany as they extend hospitality to refugees fleeing violence in Ukraine. Your donations have helped to provide housing, food, and critical supplies. It has assisted in relocating a primary school from Kyiv to the Czech Republic. Your donations have also helped congregations in places like Herrnhut to provide language classes, meals, and assistance in finding housing.

We look forward to assisting additional schools in the Czech Republic to welcome refugees into their student bodies. We also know that some refugees are making their way to the United States and Canada. Moravian clergy in southern WI recently met in person with some of our Ukrainian partners and Board of World Mission staff members and congregations in the Madison, WI area are now working together to assist Ukrainian families settling in their area. The BWM can help your congregation if it would like to get involved with hosting refugee families.



Those in the US can send checks to Board of World Mission, 1021 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018 or make a donation online at [MoravianMission.org/Give](https://MoravianMission.org/Give). Please use the memo line to indicate that your gift is for "Refugee Resettlement."

Canadians can send checks to Moravian Church in Canada, 600 Acadia Drive SE, Calgary, AB T2J 0B8. Please send Interac e-Transfer donations to [treasurer@moravian.ca](mailto:treasurer@moravian.ca). In the comments section, include "Refugee Resettlement" as well as your name and address to receive a tax receipt.

## 2021 Annual Report

In the pages of our 2021 annual report you will see lasting ministries which celebrated 75- and 100-year anniversaries last year. We also share about new and expanding ministries. Our Mission Grant program had its largest year by number of grants and total dollars distributed in 2021. We welcomed new staff members and have renewed our website, social media, and direct communication efforts. This has been a true blessing as too much happens in a year to fit it into the few pages found here. Follow along as our reports take you from the U.S., to Central America, to Africa... and back! Find the report at [MoravianMission.org/Annual-Report](https://MoravianMission.org/Annual-Report).



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## Thank you, Jill!

It is with deep gratitude for the 12 years of faithful service to God's mission through her work as the Director of Mission Service for the Board of World Mission that we announce Sister Jill Kolodziej's retirement.

Jill began her work with the Board of World Mission in 2010 and, since then, has been engaging individuals in cross-cultural service across the worldwide Unity by collaborating between servants and site hosts as well as coordinating servants' cultural, ecclesial, spiritual, and logistical preparation. While Jill has retired from her role as a staff member at the BWM, she will continue on as a volunteer and engaged member of the worldwide church.



We welcome folks reaching out to Jill to thank her for her many years of dedicated work. She has helped many Moravians transform their interest in mission into an involvement in service at home and around the world.

## Moravian Misson Coffee

Order today at:  
[MoravianMissionCoffee.org](https://MoravianMissionCoffee.org)



Each bag purchased enables the Board of World Mission to provide more Mission Grant funding to specific Moravian ministries and projects as they are identified by our partners around the world.

**In addition to our original medium roast and decaffeinated blend, hazelnut coffee is now available!**



Board of World Mission



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